

REMARKS

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in response to a Final Office Action mailed May 9, 2005. Eighteen (18) claims, including three (3) independent claims, were paid for in the application. Claims 1-14, and 18 have been canceled. Claims 15-17 were previously canceled. Claims 19-29 have been added. No new matter has been added to the application. Claims 19-29 are now pending in this application. The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejections In View of Previously Pending Claims

Previously pending claims 1-14 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,415,712 to Helland et al. (Helland). These claims have been canceled as part of this RCE, thus the pending claim rejections are rendered moot.

35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejections In View of Currently Pending Claims (Claims Added in RCE)

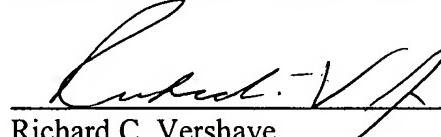
Helland does not disclose, teach, or suggest the strap guiding assembly as claimed in Applicants' currently pending independent claims 19, 24, and 26-28. Support for the subject matter in the currently pending claims is provided on page 8, lines 18, through page 9, line 18, and in Figures 7 and 8 of the application. Accordingly, Helland does not anticipate the new independent claims and any claims that depend therefrom.

Conclusion

All of the claims currently pending in the application are now clearly allowable.
Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC


Richard C. Vershave

Registration No. 55,907

RCV:jr

Enclosure:

Postcard

701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6300
Seattle, Washington 98104-7092
Phone: (206) 622-4900
Fax: (206) 682-6031

720004.535 / 692501v1